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13 | AliveCor, Inc.

14 Plaintiff,

15

16 | Apple Inc.

Defendant

CASE NO. 4:21-cv-03958-JSW

**PLAINTIFF ALIVECOR, INC.'S REPLY
IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO
EXCLUDE CERTAIN OPINIONS AND
TESTIMONY OF LAUREN J. STIROH,
Ph.D.**

Date: October 6, 2023

Time: 9 am

Place: Courtroom 5, 2nd Floor

The Honorable Jeffrey S. White

[REDACTED]

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6	Butler Opp.	Apple's Opposition to AliveCor's Motion to Strike and Exclude Portions of Report and Testimony of Sarah Butler (Dkt. 213-3)
7	Cragg Mot.	Apple's Daubert Motion to Exclude Testimony of Dr. Michael I. Cragg (Dkt. 216-3)
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9	Cross-Opp.	Plaintiff AliveCor, Inc.'s Combined Reply in Further Support of Its Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and Opposition to Apple Inc.'s Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment
11	HRNN	Apple's Heart Rate Neural Network
12	HRPO	Apple's Heart Rate Path Optimizer
13	IRN	Apple's Irregular Rhythm Notification Feature
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222-10	Lo Exhibit 7 (Jafari Corrected Opening Report)
222-11	Lo Exhibit 8 (Williams Depo Transcript)
222-12	Lo Exhibit 9 (Stiroh Rebuttal Report)
222-13	Lo Exhibit 10 (Monitor your heart rate with Apple Watch)
222-14	Lo Exhibit 11 (APL-ALVCOR_00796638)
222-15	Lo Exhibit 12 (Shapiro Depo Transcript)
222-16	Lo Exhibit 13 (APL-ALVCOR_00611807)
222-17	Lo Exhibit 14 (APL-ALVCOR_00860277)
222-18	Lo Exhibit 15 (APL-ALVCOR_00610371)
222-19	Lo Exhibit 16 (Waydo Depo Transcript)
222-20	Lo Exhibit 17 (APL-ALVCOR_01019397)
222-21	Lo Exhibit 18 (APL-ALVCOR_01019113)
222-22	Lo Exhibit 19 (Apple Developer Program License Agreement)
222-23	Lo Exhibit 20 (Locke Depo Transcript)
222-24	Lo Exhibit 21 (APL-ALVCOR_00000179)
222-25	Lo Exhibit 22 (Gundotra Depo Transcript)
222-26	Lo Exhibit 23 (APL-ALVCOR_00078193)
222-27	Lo Exhibit 24 (Caldbeck Depo Transcript)
222-28	Lo Exhibit 25 (User Manual for Kardia by AliveCor and OmronConnect)
222-29	Lo Exhibit 26 (APL-ALVCOR_00436336)
222-30	Lo Exhibit 27 (APL-ALVCOR_00079528)
222-31	Lo Exhibit 28 (AliveNDCal_01511763)
222-32	Lo Exhibit 29 (AliveNDCal_01511764)
222-33	Lo Exhibit 30 (AliveNDCal_04638165)
222-34	Lo Exhibit 31 (AliveNDCal_04638166)
222-35	Lo Exhibit 32 (AliveNDCal_04649133)
222-36	Lo Exhibit 33 (AliveNDCal_04649134)

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222-37	Lo Exhibit 34 (Cragg May 17 Depo Transcript)
222-38	Lo Exhibit 35 (Cragg June 20 Depo Transcript)
222-39	Lo Exhibit 36 (HKWorkout _ Apple Developer Documentation)
222-40	Lo Exhibit 37 (Running workout sessions _ Apple Developer Documentation)
222-41	Lo Exhibit 38 (APL-ALVCOR_00605882)
222-42	Lo Exhibit 39 (Foley Opening Report)
222-43	Lo Exhibit 40 (Cragg Rebuttal Report)
222-44	Lo Exhibit 41 (APL-ALVCOR_00442146)
222-45	Lo Exhibit 42 (AliveNDCal_00011693)
222-46	Lo Exhibit 43 (Tan Depo Transcript)
222-47	Lo Exhibit 44 (Barnett Depo Transcript)
222-48	Lo Exhibit 45 (Valys Depo Transcript)
222-49	Lo Exhibit 46 (Stultz Depo Transcript)
222-50	Lo Exhibit 47 (Cha Depo Transcript)
222-51	Lo Exhibit 48 (APL-ALVCOR_00066223)
222-52	Lo Exhibit 49 (Stultz Depo Transcript)
222-53	Lo Exhibit 50 (Austin Smith Opening Report)
222-54	Lo Exhibit 51 (AliveNDCal_00022918)
222-55	Lo Exhibit 52 (Jafari 5/19 Depo Transcript)
222-56	Lo Exhibit 53 (Jafari 6/19 Depo Transcript)
222-57	Lo Exhibit 54 (APL_ALVCOR_00823192)
222-58	Lo Exhibit 55 (Butler Rebuttal Report)
222-59	Lo Exhibit 56 (Diehl Opening Report)
222-60	Lo Exhibit 57 (Butler Depo Transcript)
222-61	Lo Exhibit 58 (Diehl Depo Transcript)
222-62	Lo Exhibit 59 (Stiroh 5/18 Depo Transcript)
222-63	Lo Exhibit 60 (Stiroh 6/14 Depo Transcript)
222-64	Lo Exhibit 61 (Jafari Rebuttal Report)
222-65	Lo Exhibit 62 (APL_ALVCOR_00078272)
222-66	Lo Exhibit 63 (APL_ALVCOR_00078391)
222-67	Lo Exhibit 64 (Apple Watch User Guide, WatchOS 9.4)

Previously Filed Document Index	
Dkt. No.	Document
222-68	Lo Exhibit 65 (View Heart Rate Zones on Apple Watch - Apple Support)

1 **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

2 As the Ninth Circuit's recent *Epic Games* decision highlights, a party making market
 3 definition and procompetitive justification arguments must adhere to a wealth of targeted,
 4 nuance-laden law that identifies the very specific legal requirements for those concepts. One cannot
 5 simply throw as much as possible against the wall in the hopes that something might stick. Instead,
 6 each type of argument requires evidence directed specifically at the relevant market from which the
 7 plaintiff was allegedly excluded and justifications for the specific competitive restraint the plaintiff
 8 alleges caused it and competition harm.

9 Apple's defense of the procompetitive justification opinions Dr. Stiroh provided in her
 10 opening report, and her two-sided market definition opinions from her rebuttal report, ignores these
 11 legal requirements. *See* Stiroh Opp. Instead, Apple cites a wide variety of inapposite law and
 12 continues its attempts to rewrite binding precedent. Those arguments fail for several reasons.

13 *First*, Apple has not explained how the procompetitive justification opinions Dr. Stiroh
 14 offers in her opening report comply with the law or fit the facts of the case. All but one of those
 15 justifications have absolutely nothing to do with Workout Mode or any algorithm within Workout
 16 Mode, rendering them legally irrelevant under Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit precedent. As for
 17 HRNN, Dr. Stiroh tries to justify its inclusion in Workout Mode while never providing a justification
 18 for gating off access to HRPO, and without any sort of technical expertise to explain why it was
 19 *necessary* to do the latter while introducing the former. In essence, Dr. Stiroh, a non-technical
 20 expert, offers a technical product improvement opinion rather than a procompetitive justification
 21 opinion, and without justifying the actual competitive restraint AliveCor alleges in this case. That
 22 requires exclusion, as Dr. Stiroh implicitly conceded when she finally offered a HRPO-specific
 23 opinion in her rebuttal report.¹

24 *Second*, although Apple tries to argue Dr. Stiroh does not offer a two-sided relevant market
 25

26

 27 ¹ That single "rebuttal" opinion arguably came too late because Apple did not disclose it in
 28 Dr. Stiroh's opening report, which was for opinions on which Apple bears the burden of proof.
 However, AliveCor does not move on that single opinion, largely because it is completely
 unsupported and therefore subject to straightforward cross-examination at trial.

1 opinion, her report and deposition each show that is exactly what she does. And the problem remains
2 that her two-sided relevant market definition is legally deficient in multiple respects. As an initial
3 matter, Apple cannot contest Dr. Stiroh admitted her definition does not comport with the
4 requirements for a two-sided relevant market, as set forth in *Amex* and reiterated in *Epic Games*. No
5 matter how Apple tries to reframe it, her opinion also clearly violates the Supreme Court’s *Kodak*
6 and *Alston* opinions, as well as Ninth Circuit’s *Qualcomm* opinion (among many others) by
7 (a) arguing AliveCor needs to prove Apple’s monopoly power in anything but the watchOS heart
8 rhythm analysis (“HRA”) app aftermarket, and (b) defining the market by conduct rather than the
9 area of effective competition between Apple and AliveCor; *i.e.*, the market where the
10 anticompetitive effects allegedly occurred. This, combined with her complete failure to do any sort
11 of reasonable interchangeability analysis, renders her two-sided relevant market opinion improper
12 hand-waving disguised as “expert” opinion.

13 For these reasons, Apple has not explained why the Court should permit Dr. Stiroh to offer
14 her unfounded and legally improper opinions. Accordingly, they should be excluded.

15 II. ARGUMENT

16 A. The Procompetitive Justifications Dr. Stiroh Set Forth In Her Opening Report 17 Are Legally Impermissible Opinions

18 Apple insists that Dr. Stiroh offers procompetitive justifications for the “core”
19 anticompetitive conduct at issue—“the replacement of HRPO with HRNN in Workout Mode”—and
20 those justifications thus “fit” this case. Stiroh Opp. at 4-13. But this attorney argument does not
21 resolve the fundamental problems with her opinions. *First*, all but one of Dr. Stiroh’s proffered
22 justifications do *not* relate to what Apple now acknowledges is the core conduct. Justifications like
23 these, unmoored from the exclusionary act, fail as a matter of law. *NCAA v. Alston*, 141 S. Ct. 2141,
24 2160 (2021). Apple’s attempt to remedy that problem is to argue the opinions speak to Apple’s
25 intent. But, that walks Dr. Stiroh into an entirely different reason for exclusion, because opining
26 about a party’s intent is plainly impermissible expert testimony. *Second*, because HRPO remained
27 on the Apple Watch and was used in parallel to HRNN in Workout Mode (as well as separately for
28 Apple’s own medical monitoring features), the competitive effects of gating off HRPO can and must

1 be analyzed separately from Apple’s decision to introduce the HRNN. *In re Impax Labs, Inc.*, 2019
 2 WL 1552939, at *31 (F.T.C. 2019). Dr. Stiroh’s HRNN-specific opinions do not address this, the
 3 only relevant economic question, and are therefore irrelevant as a matter of law. *Third*, Dr. Stiroh’s
 4 analysis is not tied to a relevant market, and thus violates *United States v. Topco Assocs., Inc.*, 405
 5 U.S. 596, 610 (1972). *Fourth*, Dr. Stiroh conceded by action that her opening justifications do not
 6 address the actual conduct at issue, confirming why her other procompetitive justifications must be
 7 excluded. Given all these legal infirmities, Dr. Stiroh’s procompetitive justification opinions must
 8 be excluded. *United Food & Com. Workers Loc. 1776 & Participating Emps. Health & Welfare*
 9 *Fund v. Teikoku Pharma USA*, 296 F. Supp. 3d 1142, 1183 (N.D. Cal. 2017) (“[E]xclusion of
 10 opinions that are irrelevant as a matter of law or contrary to the law is appropriate through the
 11 Daubert process[.]”).

12 **1. Most of Dr. Stiroh’s procompetitive justifications have nothing to do
 13 with any algorithm change, and are offered for improper purpose**

14 Apple concedes that the core anticompetitive conduct at issue in this case is the algorithm
 15 change in watchOS 5. Stiroh Opp. at 4. It nonetheless continues to argue that Dr. Stiroh’s litany of
 16 seemingly-random “justifications”—including the introduction of a Walkie-Talkie App,
 17 improvements to Siri, and new watch faces—are relevant as “context.” Stiroh Opp. at 8-10; *see also*
 18 191-15 ¶ 13(d)(iii). Dr. Stiroh’s strategy of identifying “justifications” completely untethered to the
 19 algorithm change, however, is legally and methodologically infirm. *See, e.g., O.M. v. Nat’l Women’s*
 20 *Soccer League, LLC*, 544 F. Supp. 3d 1063, 1073 (D. Or. 2021) (“Justifications offered under the
 21 rule of reason may be considered only to the extent that they tend to show that, on balance, *the*
 22 *challenged restraint enhances competition.*”) (internal citation omitted) (emphasis added).

23 Apple’s argument proceeds from the odd premise that it—not AliveCor—is the master of
 24 AliveCor’s complaint. Stiroh Opp. at 8. According to Apple, Dr. Stiroh can offer procompetitive
 25 justifications for acts that AliveCor identified in its complaint as evidence of Apple’s market power
 26 and anticompetitive intent, rather than as acts AliveCor alleged excluded it from the market.² That

27 ² *See e.g.*, Dkt. 191-23 at 34:8-35:2 (Apple’s App Store review process is relevant to monopoly
 28 power, but not the exclusionary conduct at issue); 78:14-83:19 (Apple’s introduction of the IRN is
 relevant to understanding Apple’s overall monopolization strategy, but is not the conduct at issue).

1 premise is false, *cf. Corber v. Xanodyne Pharms., Inc.*, 771 F.3d 1218, 1223 (9th Cir. 2014) (in the
 2 CAFA context, “plaintiffs are the masters of their complaint”) (internal quotation omitted), and the
 3 court in *Epic Games* rejected Apple’s identical strategy there. *See Epic Games, Inc. v. Apple Inc.*,
 4 559 F. Supp. 3d 898, 1009-10 (N.D. Cal. 2021) (rejecting Apple’s attempt to justify its App Store
 5 commission by reference to unrelated hardware intellectual property), *aff’d in relevant part, rev’d*
 6 *in part and remanded*, 67 F.4th 946 (9th Cir. 2023). In order for Dr. Stiroh to offer purported
 7 procompetitive justifications to the jury, they must be tied to the conduct at issue, *i.e.* the algorithm
 8 change Apple concedes is the “core conduct.” *Alston*, 141 S. Ct. at 2160.

9 Apple’s argument that mere mention of these facts in the complaint makes Dr. Stiroh’s
 10 opinions “fit” the case is likewise incorrect. *See* Stiroh Opp. at 8-9. *Daubert* itself makes clear that
 11 “scientific validity for one purpose is not necessarily scientific validity for other, unrelated
 12 purposes.” *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharms., Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579, 591 (1993). Had Dr. Stiroh offered
 13 an opinion that Apple’s App Store review process was not a source of Apple’s monopoly power, for
 14 example, *that* might have been a valid reason to provide opinions about the App Store. But that is
 15 not what Dr. Stiroh does. Instead, she opines that the App Store review process is procompetitive.
 16 Dkt. 191-15 ¶ 102 (“Apple’s enforcement of the Review Guidelines on app developers, including
 17 AliveCor, is procompetitive[.]”). It is this—the disconnect between competitively justifying these
 18 features despite no allegations they are anticompetitive—that underlies AliveCor’s “fit” challenge.³

19 Apple now appears to argue that Dr. Stiroh’s opinions are “relevant to understanding *why*
 20 Apple undertook the conduct AliveCor challenges.” Stiroh Opp. at 10 (emphasis in original). In so
 21 arguing, Apple unwittingly demonstrates why Dr. Stiroh’s justification opinions are inadmissible.
 22 First, a hired expert like Dr. Stiroh may not testify as to their client’s intent, because that is perciptient
 23 witness testimony and not the province of expert opinion. *See, e.g., Arista Networks, Inc. v. Cisco*
 24 *Sys. Inc.*, 2018 WL 8949299, at *1-*3 (N.D. Cal. June 15, 2018) (excluding experts who opined as

25
 26
 27
 28 ³ Apple’s cite to *Perez v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 2011 WL 8601203 (N.D. Cal. Dec.
 7, 2011), is curious. The court admitted a *plaintiff’s* expert who opined as to the effects of a specific
 conspiracy alleged in the complaint. *Id.* at *4. The cite says nothing about a defense expert, like
 Dr. Stiroh, who opines on the justifications for conduct the plaintiff does *not* allege is exclusionary.

1 to a party's state of mind or intent); *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee & Merch. Disc. Antitrust*
 2 *Litig.*, 2022 WL 15044626, at *16-*17 (E.D.N.Y. Oct. 26, 2022) (excluding portions of expert
 3 opinion relating to the defendants' state of mind and collecting cases); *see also DePaepe v. General*
 4 *Motors Corp.*, 141 F.3d 715, 720 (7th Cir. 1998) (expert "lacked any scientific basis for an opinion
 5 about the motives of GM's designers."); *In re Diet Drugs (Phentermine, Fenfluramine,*
 6 *Dexfenfluramine) Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2000 WL 876900, at *9 (E.D. Pa. June 20, 2000) (excluding
 7 expert opinions as to corporate intent because "[t]he question of intent is a classic jury question and
 8 not one for experts"). By conceding Dr. Stiroh is offering opinion testimony about *why* Apple took
 9 certain actions, Apple has explained to the Court why those opinions must be excluded.

10 But, even if opining as to a party's intent were not so clearly impermissible, it bears further
 11 noting that a monopolist's supposedly benign intent is not a shield to antitrust liability, nor is it a
 12 viable procompetitive justification. *United Food* is instructive. There, the defendant offered an
 13 expert who opined that it entered into an allegedly anticompetitive agreement based on "good
 14 motives." *United Food*, 296 F. Supp. 3d at 1182. The court agreed with plaintiffs that the defendant
 15 did "not show how that goal has any pro-competitive impact on consumers or on the industry in
 16 general, or on any other consideration relevant to a rule of reason analysis," and therefore excluded
 17 that expert. *Id.* at 1184. This case is on all fours. Apple *admits* the only relevance of Dr. Stiroh's
 18 "justifications" is understanding "*why*" Apple engaged in the exclusionary conduct. Stiroh Opp. at
 19 10. But, like the testimony in *United Food*, such testimony must be excluded because it bears no
 20 relation to the inquiry at hand; *i.e.*, whether there were objectively procompetitive justifications for
 21 denying access to HRPO.⁴

22 Finally, Apple argues that Dr. Stiroh's failure to explain the causal link between her
 23 justifications and Apple's anticompetitive conduct is fodder for cross-examination, rather than
 24 exclusion. Stiroh Opp. at 10. Not so. An expert's complete failure to explain *any* causal relationship

25
 26 ⁴ For similar reasons, Apple's citations to *FTC v. Microsoft Corp.*, 2023 WL 4443412, at *18
 27 (N.D. Cal. July 10, 2023) and *FTC v. Meta Platforms Inc.*, 2023 WL 2346238, at *24 (N.D. Cal.
 28 Feb. 3, 2023) have no bearing on this case. Each relates to the hypothetical incentives a merged
 entity might have, post-merger; not whether an expert can opine on a party's actual intent behind
 past exclusionary conduct.

1 between their opinions and the anticompetitive conduct at issue warrants exclusion under *Daubert*.
 2 *See, e.g., Rearden LLC v. Walt Disney Co.*, 2021 WL 6882227, at *7 (N.D. Cal. July 12, 2021)
 3 (excluding expert for confusing correlation for causation); *In re LIBOR-Based Fin. Instruments*
 4 *Antitrust Litig.*, 299 F. Supp. 3d 430, 487 (S.D.N.Y. 2018) (expert found unreliable where he offered
 5 no means to distinguish between pro- and anticompetitive factors). Apple admits that Dr. Stiroh
 6 offers *no* opinion as to whether Apple’s decision to withdraw access to HRPO was necessary for
 7 any of her “justifications,” Stiroh Opp. at 10, and indeed she cannot offer that opinion because she
 8 disclaimed any expertise in the engineering concepts necessary to do so. Dkt. 191-20 at 12:1-13:9
 9 (no expertise in algorithms, source code, or engineering). As a result, AliveCor cannot test the causal
 10 link underlying Dr. Stiroh’s justifications at trial because *she does not even know if there is one*.⁵
 11 Her complete inability to identify any causal link between the conduct at issue and her purported
 12 procompetitive justifications requires exclusion. *Alston*, 141 S. Ct. at 2160.

13 **2. Dr. Stiroh’s HRNN-specific justifications fail to address the relevant
 14 economic question (whether gating off HRPO was procompetitive)**

15 Apple’s main argument as to Dr. Stiroh’s opinions on HRNN is that she analyzes the correct
 16 design change because she focuses on Apple’s introduction of that algorithm and assumes the
 17 but-for world is one where Apple never introduced it at all. Stiroh Opp. at 4-8. The problem,
 18 however, is she tries to justify introducing HRNN without addressing why it was procompetitive to
 19 simultaneously gate off HRPO. *Id.* As discussed in AliveCor’s Cross-Opposition to Summary
 20 Judgment, *that* is the correct legal question. *See* Cross-Opp. § III.A.3. By not addressing it,
 21 Dr. Stiroh’s opinions about HRNN are both methodologically unsound and legally impermissible.

22 As an initial matter, AliveCor takes substantial issue with Dr. Stiroh’s assertion that HRNN
 23 was a “product improvement.” Cross-Opp. at 10-11. She has no technical expertise to offer such an
 24 opinion. Dkt. 191-20 at 12:1-13:9. However, even if it were proper for a non-technical expert to
 25 give a technical opinion, the broader problem is that Apple argues it is proper to explain HRNN’s

26 ⁵ For this reason, Apple’s cited cases are all inapposite. *See In re Juul Labs, Inc. Mktg., Sales*

27 *Pracs. & Prod. Liab. Litig.*, 2022 WL 1814440, at *5-6 (N.D. Cal. June 2, 2022) (expert offered
 28 some causation analysis, albeit not empirical); *Burnett v. Nat’l Ass’n of Realtors*, 2022 WL
 17730880, at *3 (W.D. Mo. Dec. 16, 2022) (expert offered an empirical causation analysis).

1 procompetitive justifications because *Allied Orthopedic* supposedly requires this Court to consider
 2 the HRPO and HRNN-related design changes together. Stiroh Opp. at 5-6. As discussed more fully
 3 in AliveCor's response to Apple's cross-motion, that is incorrect. The question under *Allied*
 4 *Orthopedic* is whether gating off HRPO heart rates from third-party developers was either itself an
 5 improvement, or, in the alternative, a "necessary consequence" of the alleged "product improvement
 6 in this case," *i.e.*, introducing HRNN. *Allied Orthopedic Appliances Inc. v. Tyco Health Care Grp.*
 7 *LP*, 592 F.3d 991, 1002 (9th Cir 2010); *see also* Cross-Opp § III.A.3.a. Since Apple can prove
 8 neither, *see id.*, the economic question for Dr. Stiroh is therefore whether gating off HRPO had
 9 procompetitive justifications. *Id.* If she does not (and, as discussed previously and reiterated below,
 10 she does not), her HRNN-related justifications should be excluded, because they do not address the
 11 core antitrust question in this case. *Alston*, 141 S. Ct. at 2160; *see also* *C.R. Bard, Inc. v. M3 Sys.,*
 12 *Inc.*, 157 F.3d 1340, 1379-83 (Fed. Cir. 1998) (noting the jury rejected the defendant's contention
 13 its design change was a procompetitive improvement); *Surgical Instrument Serv. Co., Inc. v.*
 14 *Intuitive Surgical, Inc.*, 571 F. Supp. 3d 1133, 1137 (N.D. Cal. 2021) (finding plaintiffs sufficiently
 15 pled that defendant's product redesign was exclusionary conduct").⁶

16 With this in mind, the undisputed facts bear repeating: HRNN did not "replace" HRPO. *See*
 17 Stiroh Opp. at 5. HRPO remained on watchOS 5 and ran in parallel to HRNN for the entire Workout
 18 Mode session, even after Apple forced the session to only publish HRNN heart values to third
 19 parties. Cross-Opp at 8-9. Apple also continued to use HRPO for its own medical monitoring
 20 purposes. *See id.* at 12-15; Dkt. 193-44 § V.C. As Apple itself admits, foreclosing access to HRPO
 21 and introducing HRNN were two distinct design changes. Cross-Opp. at 8. Apple has not provided
 22 any lay or expert evidence indicating it was necessary to gate off HRPO as a consequence of

23
 24 ⁶ Apple's remaining legal support is thin. *Foremost Pro Color, Inc. v. Eastman Kodak Co.*, 703
 25 F.2d 534 (9th Cir. 1983), stands for the uncontroversial opinion that technological tying cases should
 26 be analyzed under the Rule of Reason, not as *per se* conduct. *Id.* at 542-43. And, unlike this case,
 27 the plaintiff there did not allege that the design change's purpose was to compel purchase of the
 28 monopolist's products. *Id.* at 543. AliveCor has made exactly that allegation and shown its truth
 through discovery. *See* Cross-Opp. § III.A.2. As for *California Computer Prod., Inc. v. Int'l Bus.*
Machines Corp., 613 F.2d 727 (9th Cir. 1979), the issue of whether certain conduct was a product
 improvement went to the jury. *Id.* at 743-44. At absolute best, *CalComp* supports denying both
 parties' summary judgment motions and letting the jury decide this question.

1 introducing HRNN, *see* Cross-Opp. § III.A.3., and Dr. Stiroh cites no such evidence in her report.
 2 This is important because the undisputed record shows “Apple would have been free to develop new
 3 products independently of its change in access to algorithms[.]” Dkt. 193-42 ¶ 315.

4 In offering her HRNN-specific procompetitive justification opinions, Apple does not explain
 5 how Dr. Stiroh grapples with these issues at all. Despite admitting that antitrust analyses proceed
 6 from the counterfactual in which *the challenged conduct* did not occur, *see* Dkt. 191-20 at
 7 67:25-68:7, she instead evaluates a counterfactual in which Apple ceased virtually all innovation
 8 entirely, *id.* at 76:24-77:5 (“Q. In the but-for world without the alleged conduct, does Apple
 9 introduce the Series 4 watch? A. In my understanding, no.”) (objection omitted). But AliveCor is
 10 not challenging Apple’s overall innovation; it challenges Apple’s discrete design change as to
 11 HRPO and third-party access. Cross-Opp. at 7-9. Dr. Stiroh’s own academic work—not to mention
 12 a wealth of legal authority—indicates that her approach is methodologically improper. *See* Stiroh
 13 Mot. § IV.A.3. Nothing prevented Dr. Stiroh from engaging in this proper analysis; indeed, she
 14 belatedly attempted to do so. *See infra* § II.A.3. Dr. Stiroh’s failure to evaluate the appropriate
 15 counterfactual is therefore both a fundamental “fit” problem for her HRNN-specific justifications,
 16 *see Daubert*, 509 U.S. at 591, and underscores the irremediable unreliability of her testimony, *Bank*
 17 *of Am., N.A. v. Bear Stearns Asset Mgmt.*, 969 F. Supp. 2d 339, 358 (S.D.N.Y. 2013).

18 Apple attempts to fight this conclusion by faulting AliveCor for the number of times it cites
 19 Dr. Stiroh’s opening report in its *Daubert* motion—specifically, her contention that introducing
 20 HRNN was a “product improvement” to Workout Mode. Stiroh Opp. at 5. However, there is little
 21 need to extensively cite discussion on irrelevant topics. *See* Dkt. 191-18 ¶ 29; *see also United Food*,
 22 296 F. Supp. 3d at 1182-84.

23 **3. Dr. Stiroh’s procompetitive justifications for HRNN are divorced from
 24 the relevant market**

25 Apple also argues that the procompetitive justifications Dr. Stiroh offers in her opening
 26 report are tied to the relevant market—more specifically, Dr. Stiroh’s ill-defined “upstream” market.
 27 Stiroh Opp. at 10-13. AliveCor predicted Apple would make this argument, noting that “[*at best*,
 28 Dr. Stiroh’s procompetitive justifications relate to her flawed two-sided market,” and noted it does

1 not save Dr. Stiroh's justification opinions from exclusion. Stiroh Mot. at 10 (emphasis added).
 2 However, there are three notable aspects of Apple's position that lay bare why its argument is
 3 incorrect.

4 *First*, when it tries to defend Dr. Stiroh's market definition opinions, Apple claims she did
 5 *not* identify an upstream two-sided relevant market. *See* Stiroh Opp. at 14. However, when its tries
 6 to defend her *justification* opinions, Apple claims introducing HRNN provided procompetitive
 7 benefits in her supposedly-undefined market. Stiroh Opp. at 10-13. This is blatantly contradictory
 8 and, as discussed in Section II.B, belies Apple's claim that Dr. Stiroh does not affirmatively offer
 9 an unsupported relevant market definition in this case.

10 *Second*, Apple fails to respond to the point that the Supreme Court has held that
 11 procompetitive benefits must be felt in a *relevant* market. *Topco*, 405 U.S. at 610; *see also* Stiroh
 12 Mot. at 9. If Apple is correct that Dr. Stiroh has not identified a relevant market, then justifying
 13 HRNN on the basis of benefits to an undefined relevant market violates these precepts and requires
 14 exclusion. If, on the other hand, Dr. Stiroh *did* define a relevant market—which she did, *see* Section
 15 II.B, *infra*—that market definition violates all law and economic theory, so justifications that
 16 provide benefits in that impermissibly-defined market must be excluded. *In re NCAA Athletic Grant-*
 17 *in-Aid Cap Antitrust Litig.*, 2018 WL 1948593, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 25, 2018). Either way, it is no
 18 defense to vaguely imply that her justifications have to do with some other market besides watchOS
 19 HRA apps, yet fail to explain why it is relevant here.

20 *Third*, in the portion of its brief on this topic, Apple cites *Epic Games, Inc. v. Apple, Inc.*, 67
 21 F.4th 946, 990 (9th Cir. 2023), for the proposition that the Ninth Circuit found Apple offered
 22 procompetitive justifications for App Store-related restraints in a case about *the relevant market in*
 23 *which the App Store competes*. Stiroh Opp. at 12. That is exactly the point. In *Epic Games*,
 24 procompetitive justifications for App Store-related restraints made sense because the case was about
 25 competition with the App Store. But Dr. Stiroh admitted the App Store is *not* related to any
 26 exclusionary conduct in this case. Dkt. 191-21 at 177:9-15 (“Does AliveCor allege that there's some
 27 kind of anticompetitive activity going on with respect to the App Store? A. My understanding is that
 28 it does not.”) (objection omitted). This internal inconsistency is an additional basis warranting

1 exclusion.⁷

2 **4. Dr. Stiroh implicitly admitted the justifications she offers in her**
 3 **opening report should be excluded**

4 In addition to the above observations, it also bears noting that actions often speak louder
 5 than words. It is thus ironic that Apple attempts to suggest that Dr. Stiroh did offer an HRPO-specific
 6 procompetitive justification in this case, *see Stiroh Opp.* at 4, because that single justification only
 7 came in Dr. Stiroh's *rebuttal* report. *See Dkt. 191-16 at ¶¶ 24-29.* Notably, Apple bears the burden
 8 of proof on procompetitive justifications, *see Alston*, 141 S. Ct. at 2160 (Defendant bears the burden
 9 "to show a procompetitive rationale for the restraint."), and was accordingly required to disclose
 10 expert opinion on the issue in Dr. Stiroh's opening report. Having failed to limit her rebuttal report
 11 to actual rebuttal, *Vu v. McNeil-PPC, Inc.*, 2010 WL 2179882, at *3 (C.D. Cal. May 7, 2010), and
 12 instead using that report to shoehorn in additional testimony relating to Apple's affirmative burden,
 13 her single HRPO-related opinions technically should be stricken as untimely. *Fed. Trade Comm'n*
 14 *v. Qualcomm Inc.*, 2018 WL 6522134, at *4-5 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 11, 2018).

15 Nevertheless, AliveCor does not move to strike that untimely opinion—*i.e.*, that removing
 16 third party access to HRPO had some unspecified, unsupported cost savings—and will be prepared
 17 to cross-examine Dr. Stiroh on it at trial. What is most relevant for present purposes is that Dr. Stiroh
 18 and Apple demonstrated through conduct that they knew the procompetitive justifications she
 19 offered in her opening report did *not* address the core conduct at issue in this case. This makes
 20 AliveCor's point and underscores through action what Apple's words try to obscure.

21 **B. Dr. Stiroh Offers A Legally Infirm Market Definition That Must Be Excluded**

22 Apple defends Dr. Stiroh's two-sided relevant market definition analysis by claiming she
 23 did not offer an affirmative market definition. *Stiroh Opp.* at 13-15. This is profoundly disingenuous.

24

25 ⁷ Apple's passing reference to refusal to deal law is irrelevant. *See Stiroh Opp.* at 11 (citing
 26 *Alaska Airlines, Inc. v. United Airlines, Inc.*, 948 F.2d 536, 545 n.12 (9th Cir. 1991)). This case is
 27 not a refusal to deal. *Cross-Opp.* § III.A.4. Apple's tireless attempts to nevertheless frame this case
 28 as a refusal to deal are legally improper, *see Intuitive Surgical*, 571 F. Supp. 3d at 1337 (declining
 to analyze a product design case as a refusal to deal), as well as misleading. In any event, Apple
 does not explain how any refusal would be anything but a refusal at the Apple Watch level; *i.e.*, in
 the foremarket AliveCor identified.

1 The following are unedited quotations from Dr. Stiroh's rebuttal report: "Dr. Cragg ignores
 2 the appropriate relevant market in which to evaluate the conduct at issue[,]” Dkt. 191-16 ¶ 8;
 3 "Dr. Cragg has failed to consider the *relevant* market in this case—the key market in which the
 4 alleged conduct occurred[,"]” *id.* ¶ 19 (emphasis in original); "The market in which that alleged
 5 conduct occurred is the two-sided app transaction market in which Apple provides services as a
 6 platform operator to AliveCor and other app developers[,"]” *id.*; "Dr. Cragg Fails to Analyze the
 7 Relevant Market in Which the Conduct Took Place: a Market in which AliveCor and Apple Are
 8 Not Competitors[,"]” *id.* § III.A; "The Apple App Store is a two-sided transaction platform that offers
 9 services to two different groups of consumers—(1) app developers and (2) app users—by
 10 facilitating interactions between them[,"]” *id.* ¶ 22; "Thus, the alleged conduct centers on Apple's
 11 role as a platform operator in the two-sided market for app transactions[,"]” *id.* ¶ 25. There is more.

12 Apple cites to Dr. Stiroh's *first* deposition to suggest that she is not affirmatively offering a
 13 market definition opinion. Stiroh Opp. at 13. That, however, is incredibly misleading. At that time—
 14 May 18, 2023, four days before the rebuttal report deadline—she had only provided her *opening*
 15 report, which was limited to procompetitive justifications. Thus, she testified very specifically, "**For**
 16 ***purposes of this [opening] report***, I have not offered opinions on what the relevant market or
 17 markets are." Dkt. 191-20 at 139:14-17 (emphasis added). Notably, when Apple cites Dr. Stiroh's
 18 report for this argument, it likewise cites her opening report. *See* Stiroh Opp. at 13. Dr. Stiroh herself
 19 confirmed that she offers a two-sided market definition in her *second* deposition, which was about
 20 her rebuttals to Dr. Cragg's opening opinions. Dkt. 191-21 at 172:13-21 ("Q. What do you think is
 21 the relevant market in this case? A. I think that the relevant market needs to include the transaction
 22 between Apple and AliveCor, where the conduct at issue, as Dr. Cragg has defined it, occurred. And
 23 that relevant market would be a market where Apple operates in a two-sided platform.").

24 Apple's misleading statements are highly relevant to the disposition of this motion for two
 25 separate reasons. First, they reflect precisely the "lack of candor" that has troubled this Court
 26 previously. Dkt. 182 at 9. Second, this type of deeply misleading tactic is precisely what Apple
 27 intends to deploy at trial via Dr. Stiroh. Neither she nor Apple should be allowed mislead the jury
 28 by presenting legally infirm evidence. Indeed, it is precisely this risk that the *Daubert* standard seeks

1 to prevent. *Daubert*, 509 U.S. at 595 (“Expert evidence can be both powerful and quite misleading
 2 because of the difficulty in evaluating it.”); *United Food*, 296 F. Supp. 3d at 1183.

3 On the substance, Apple offers no serious response to AliveCor’s opening motion. There is
 4 no real question that Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided relevant market definition violates *Amex*’s core
 5 holdings. *Infra* § II.B.1. Nor is there any real doubt that Dr. Stiroh’s market definition methodology
 6 dramatically departs from all established precedent. *Infra* § II.B.1. Accordingly, her two-sided
 7 relevant market opinions must be excluded. *In re Live Concert Antitrust Litig.*, 863 F. Supp. 2d 966,
 8 983 (C.D. Cal. 2012) (excluding expert for faulty market definition methodology).

9 **1. Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided relevant market definition contravenes *Amex***

10 Apple barely addresses the point that Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided relevant market opinions
 11 directly contradict *Amex*. *See* Stiroh Opp. at 14-15. Instead, Apple merely repeats its argument that
 12 Dr. Stiroh analyzes why Apple made changes to its hardware and software offerings. *Id.* Those
 13 opinions are legally impermissible expert testimony regarding state of mind and intent. *Arista*
 14 *Networks*, 2018 WL 8949299, at *1-3. Even if they were not, they offer a market definition at odds
 15 with Supreme Court law.

16 A two-sided relevant market is one where the product is a simultaneous transaction between
 17 two different sets of consumers. *Ohio v. Am. Express Co.*, 138 S. Ct. 2274, 2286 (2018); *see also*
 18 *US Airways, Inc. v. Sabre Holdings Corp.*, 938 F.3d 43, 57 (2d Cir. 2019) (“A transaction platform
 19 is a two-sided platform where the business ‘cannot make a sale to one side of the platform without
 20 simultaneously making a sale to the other.’”) (quoting *Amex*, 138 S. Ct. at 2280). The mere fact that
 21 a market includes a “two-sided platform” does not make it a two-sided relevant market. *Amex*, 138
 22 S. Ct. at 2286 (“To be sure, it is not always necessary to consider both sides of a two-sided
 23 platform.”). Experts have been, and should be, excluded for offering two-sided relevant market
 24 definitions where they do not provide any explanation of how the factors at issue in *Amex* are
 25 present. *See In re NCAA Athletic Grant-In-Aid Cap Antitrust Litig.*, 2018 WL 4241981, at *4 (N.D.
 26 Cal. Sept. 3, 2018). Accordingly. Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided relevant market definition opinions must
 27 be excluded on these grounds alone. *United Food*, 296 F. Supp. 3d at 1183. Indeed, she does not
 28 even know what are the criteria of such a market. *See* Dkt. 191-21 at 188:13-20.

2. Dr. Stiroh did not apply any accepted methods in defining her two-sided relevant market

Apple suggests that Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided market definition is appropriate because she focuses on the alleged conduct at issue. Stiroh Opp. at 14-15. The irony here is palpable. Despite studiously ignoring Apple’s foreclosure of HRPO to third parties in her procompetitive justifications analysis, *supra* § II.A., Apple claims Dr. Stiroh’s market definition is admissible because it supposedly identifies the “correct” market *where Apple gated off HRPO from third parties*. In any event, Ninth Circuit precedent squarely forecloses Apple’s argument.

Market definition analyses begin by defining “the area of effective competition” between the parties. *Fed. Trade Comm’n v. Qualcomm Inc.*, 969 F.3d 974 (9th Cir. 2020); *see also Am. Ad Mgmt., Inc. v. Gen. Tel. Co. of Cal.*, 190 F.3d 1051, 1057 (9th Cir. 1999). Practically, this means identifying the relevant products at issue, applying the smallest-market principle, and then applying a Hypothetical Monopolist Test (or similar), methods that Dr. Cragg followed and Dr. Stiroh did not. *See* Dkt. 193-42 § IV.A. Fundamentally, these analyses boil down to “what products are economic substitutes.” *In re HIV Antitrust Litig.*, 2023 WL 3088218, at *13 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 17, 2023). Indeed, Dr. Stiroh herself acknowledges this fact *in her own report*. Dkt. 191-16 ¶ 58 (“The market definition exercise ultimately focuses on identifying products that are ‘reasonably interchangeable’ with the products that are central to the antitrust claims in a case.”). Dr. Stiroh’s failure to follow her own statement of the appropriate methodology—and Apple’s inability to explain how she followed any such methodology—warrants exclusion.

Apple’s ploy in the face of this law is to suggest that Dr. Stiroh’s opinion is relevant because it grapples with a licensing market. *See e.g.* Stiroh Opp. at 14 (“Apple ‘as a platform operator’ provides the Workout Mode API and other tools and services to AliveCor and other developers[.]’”). The Ninth Circuit, however, rejected this precise argument in *Qualcomm*. In that case, the district court “correctly defined the relevant markets as ‘the market for CDMA modem chips and the market for premium LTE modem chips,’” which were correct because those were the markets where (a) Qualcomm and other chip manufacturers competed, and (b) its licensing practices supposedly affected competition. *Qualcomm*, 969 F.3d at 992-993. The district court’s legal error, therefore,

1 was analyzing the effects of Qualcomm’s licensing practices in a market between Qualcomm as
 2 licensor and certain OEM customers as licensees, rather than those practices’ effects in the “area of
 3 effective competition” supposedly *affected* by those practices: the market where Qualcomm’s
 4 practices supposedly foreclosed other chip manufacturers from effectively competing. *Id.* at 992.
 5 Apple asks this Court to allow Dr. Stiroh to try to convince the jury to make the same reversible
 6 error. Her analysis relates to a supposed market in which AliveCor and Apple are in the supposed
 7 position of seller and purchaser—rather than the market in which they compete (watchOS HRA
 8 apps). 191-16 § III.A. Were the Court to allow her to testify to either her market definition or her
 9 procompetitive justifications in the nebulous licensing market, it would invite analysis of “actual or
 10 alleged harms to customers and consumers outside the relevant markets [which is] beyond the scope
 11 of antitrust law.” *Qualcomm*, 969 F.3d at 993.

12 Apple cites no other authority contrary to these basic market definition principles. *See* Stiroh
 13 Opp. at 15. Instead, the first sentence in Apple’s final paragraph concedes that Dr. Stiroh’s market
 14 analysis proceeds from the relevant *conduct*. *Id.* Apple tries to gloss over this admission by arguing
 15 that markets do not exist independent of the relevant antitrust *injury*, *id.*, but that is a complete *non*
 16 *sequitur*. As the Glasner and Sullivan article that Apple cites makes clear, focusing on the relevant
 17 antitrust *injury* involves looking at the market where the alleged harm to competition occurred.
 18 David Glasner & Sean Sullivan, *The Logic of Market Definition*, 83 Antitrust L. J. 293, 325 (2020)
 19 (“[A] relevant antitrust market must always be conditioned on a specific theory of competitive
 20 injury.”). Likewise, the article Apple cites from Dr. Salop focuses not on *conduct*, but on *effects*.
 21 *See* Steven C. Salop, *The First Principles Approach to Antitrust, Kodak, and Antitrust at the*
 22 *Millennium*, 68 Antitrust L. J. 187, 188 (2000) (“The first principles approach centers on an
 23 examination of the competitive effects of the conduct at issue.”).

24 Adding to the irony of Apple’s market definition arguments, the Salop article was prompted
 25 by, and extensively discusses, the Supreme Court’s decision in *Eastman Kodak Co. v. Image Tech.*
 26 *Servs., Inc.*, 504 U.S. 451 (1992). The gist of Dr. Salop’s analysis *in that article* is that the real focus
 27 in aftermarket cases like this one is on lock-in, an issue that Apple does not contest in its papers.
 28 *See* Salop, *supra*, at 195; *see also* Cross-Mot. at 37 n.11; *see generally* Cross-Mot § IV.A.2. (not

1 discussing lock-in). That strongly supports AliveCor’s case and lays bare the infirmities in
 2 Dr. Stiroh’s two-sided relevant market definition approach, especially because *Kodak* holds that, if
 3 a plaintiff proves lock-in power in an aftermarket, they need not prove the defendant’s power in any
 4 other market. 504 U.S. at 467-71. Furthermore, Apple’s final authority—a 1986 dissenting opinion
 5 from Judge Easterbrook, in the Seventh Circuit—suggests that the approach to market definition
 6 changes based on the theory of competition. *See Fishman v. Estate of Wirtz*, 807 F.2d 520, 569 (7th
 7 Cir. 1986) (Easterbrook, J., dissenting). In the very article Apple cites, Dr. Salop himself notes that
 8 this approach “is fraught with potential for error.” Salop, *supra*, at 189. Furthermore, in the decades
 9 since, court after court has reiterated that market definition does *not* change based on the theory of
 10 competition, but rather looks at where the parties compete, so the fact finder can determine whether
 11 the defendant’s conduct harmed competition in that market. *See, e.g., Phonetel, Inc. v. Am. Tel. &*
 12 *Tel. Co.*, 889 F.2d 224, 232 (9th Cir. 1989) (“[T]he correct legal standard in defining the market,
 13 limit[s] the market to include only products which could compete with the [product], as opposed to
 14 including all ancillary equipment whatever its function.”).

15 There is no serious contention in this case that such competitive harm occurred anywhere
 16 but the market where Apple and AliveCor respectively offered the IRN and SmartRhythm.
 17 Nevertheless, that is not how Dr. Stiroh proceeded. She focused on Apple’s conduct; *not* the alleged
 18 injury. This is clearly improper, even under Apple’s own authority. Dr. Stiroh’s market definition
 19 approach is thus economically unsound, and her two-sided market opinion should be excluded. *In*
 20 *re Live Concert Antitrust Litig.*, 863 F. Supp. 2d at 983; *see also Kentucky Speedway, LLC v. Nat’l*
 21 *Ass’n of Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc.*, 588 F.3d 908, 916-19 (6th Cir. 2009).⁸

22 III. CONCLUSION

23 For the foregoing reasons, the opinions on procompetitive justifications that Dr. Stiroh offers
 24 in her opening report, as well as her two-sided relevant market definition should be excluded.

25
 26 ⁸ Apple’s passing citations to *FTC v. Indiana Fed’n of Dentists*, 476 U.S. 447 (1986) and *Amex*,
 27 *see Opp.* at 15, have no relevance to the case at hand. *Indiana Fed’n of Dentists* holds, among other
 28 things, that litigants do not need to define markets *at all* in *per se* Section 1 cases. 476 U.S. at 460.
 The cited footnote in *Amex* observes the inverse—market definition is necessary in Rule of Reason
 cases. *Amex*, 138 S. Ct. at 2285 n.7.

1 | DATED: August 24, 2023

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN,
LLP

By /s/ Adam B. Wolfson

Sean Pak

Adam B. Wolfson

Andrew M. Holmes

Attorneys for Plaintiff AliveCor, Inc.

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 I, Adam Wolfson, hereby certify that on August 24, 2023, the foregoing **PLAINTIFF**
3 **ALIVECOR INC.'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN**
4 **OPINIONS AND TESTIMONY OF LAUREN J. STIROH, Ph.D.** was filed with the Clerk of
5 the Court via CM/ECF. Notice of this filing will be sent electronically to all registered parties by
6 operation of the Court's electronic filing systems.

7
8
9 DATED: August 24, 2023

10
11 By /s/ Adam B. Wolfson
12 Adam B. Wolfson

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